



Washington Association of
**SHERIFFS &
POLICE CHIEFS**

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Greetings from your Executive Director:

Here are some updates this week—

First, we have posted to our website, on social media and sent to the media this [statement](#) regarding law changes going into effect [Sunday, July 25](#). We will suggest media talk to their local law enforcement about this issue so please feel free to repost and add your own comments to the media about this issue.

In addition, we sent follow-up letters regarding our requests for intent and an Attorney General's opinion which are linked here: [HB 1054](#), [HB 1310](#). Also for your info as you get any questions about .50 caliber issues or our feedback during the legislative session, here, again, is our recommended reforms [one-pager](#) and our [written testimony regarding HB 1310](#).

Here are a number of good examples of Chiefs and Sheriffs communicating with the community about the changes:

https://www.khq.com/news/spokane-police-express-concerns-over-new-police-reform-laws/article_6d4eb884-e683-11eb-a27f-8b30c6da5444.html

<https://twitter.com/BLPoliceDept/status/1417234261929693199?s=20>

<https://www.king5.com/article/news/politics/washington-state-police-reform-bills-confuse-police-in-effect-july/281-d1db250e-a117-4236-b0ba-ff0b964c829a>

<https://www.yelmonline.com/stories/new-use-of-force-law-may-be-harmful-in-practice-chief-says,268647>

<https://komonews.com/news/local/police-some-criminals-may-go-free-after-new-limits-take-effect-on-law-enforcement>

<https://lynnwoodtimes.com/2021/07/18/lynnwood-crime-2020/>

<https://myedmondsnews.com/2021/07/local-police-departments-sorting-out-unknowns-in-new-accountability-laws-effective-july-25/>

https://www.yakimaherald.com/news/crime_and_courts/yakima-valley-law-enforcement-critical-of-police-reform-measures-set-to-go-into-effect/article_32cc1711-425e-5381-9234-6f20552e21cf.html

<https://www.kxly.com/police-response-to-mental-health-calls-will-change-this-sunday/>

[Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Police Reform Editorial](#)

We have started to hear non-law enforcement voices with experience in behavioral health, expressing opinions about some of these changes.

[COLUMN: House Bill 1310 – Good intentions, but bad legislation \(Richard Stride/The Chronicle](#)

[Guest Column: Legislation threatens progress on behavioral health crisis response | On Your Mind | ifiberone.com](#)

As always, we will keep you in the loop and work together- Stay Safe

- Steve